

C O P Y

January 2, 1962

Mr. Ken Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Co.  
Racine, Wis.

Dear Ken:

I received your nice letter today as I did not get to the Post Office during the Holidays.

May I suggest that you write to Mr. F. Newel Childs just as you wrote to me, asking him the same questions and I feel certain he will co-operate. However he is a very busy man and is often out of town at his other office in New York and elsewhere.

If and when I see Miss Partridge (C. F. Childs ex-secretary) in the near future I will also tell her about your questions and they may be able to expedite matters.

Best wishes for 1962.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

R. Green

RG/gf



January 3, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

Thank you for your nice letter of December 29. I suggest that you come on the evening of January 12. We will plan to work all day Saturday and perhaps Friday night and by that time we should be finished.

I spoke to Jim Wells and he will be glad to see you Saturday night and you may wish to work with him on Sunday or be with him Sunday night. You may also feel free to go home on Sunday morning if you choose. I do not expect our work together to take more than one day.

I have already made your hotel reservation at our house.

I have heard nothing from Walter and I am sure he is boiling. I am sorry but I cannot worry about it.

I have written to Mrs. Green in accordance with the enclosed.

Thank you, very much, for the statement by Comparette. I have already added this to the text.

I think it is important to have a fine enlarged picture of the date on the 1804 dollar and am wondering if you can blow up some negative you have.

I still have Amon Carter's 1801, 1802 and 1803 restrikes and feel that sharper pictures can be taken. Perhaps you should do this.

I believe it would be well if you write to Sarah Freeman and ask her to reweigh their 1804 dollar as you can advise her that this is so far below standard weight you feel it should be rechecked.



Page 2

January 3, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett

I have a letter from Val that there is a rim on both sides of the Class II dollar.

I will discuss with you the matter of the smoothing of the reeded edge. I will also discuss with you the additional spots which you find between the second and third stars.

I will turn over to you the schematic drawing of the Castaign machine and I feel that you will have to have it redone for clarity.

I do not know Hydeman and even if I did I do not think he would wish to disclose what happened to his dollar.

Ray Williamson will have his comments on the 1804 dollar returned to me before you arrive.

My son has been working steadily on the book and has done a marvelous job in clarifying.

Please call me as soon as you get in from the airport to the Chase Hotel, or call me from the airport, so that we can make arrangements. My number is Main 1-7300 and my house number is Parkview 7-0850.

Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



WHITMAN  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY

Whitman

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

January 3, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:


As things stand now, I will arrive at the St. Louis airport 3 p.m. Friday the 12th. I can take a taxi to your house and wait there until you get home from the office. This will give us Friday night and all day Saturday to work.

I hope we will be able to take time out for dinner with Jim Wells Saturday evening. I will catch the 8:30 a.m. plane Sunday morning if this will not inconvenience you too much. I will bring everything necessary with me. The photographs are in good shape and I will have sample pages of type and a suggested layout for the style of the book.

A look at the 1886 edition of Evans reveals that it was completed July 1, 1885, and has a copyright of that same year. Since the Chapman sale took place in May, 1885, I believe this must be the earliest use of the Chapman material. My 1885 book is titled A VISITOR'S GUIDE TO THE MINT by Smith--cannot find an earlier edition of Evans.

Enclosed is a copy of Ruth Green's latest letter concerning the Watters specimen. We can talk about this when we get together. If I do not hear from you soon confirming the above arrangements, I will telephone you sometime next week.

'sever,



Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam  
encl.  
AIR MAIL



January 10, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

Your trip to St. Louis is fine and I will meet you at my house.

Just got a marvelous roll of film from Washington proving conclusively how proud the mint officials were in the introduction of the flat raised border in 1829.

I have a ten-page letter of suggestions from Williamson. Of all things, he was just asked to address the local Coin Club on the 1804 dollar. This shows the tremendous interest in the matter.

We have a lot of work to do.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



January 22, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I have finished the text and enclose the original in one or more packets, having made a photocopy for safety purposes. The original is to come back to me after proof reading, etc. I have incorporated many suggestions of Williamson and rejected others. The footnote numbers are in red, all 182 of them.

I will write the titles for the pictures as soon as you send me a proof of the cuts. I have inserted in the text a reference to all of the pictures. I think a large blow up of the Class II dollar in the place where the undertype shows and a blow up of the Swiss Shooting Thaler in that area will be advantageous as I don't think a total picture will show enough.

It was fun having you visit and I appreciated the books you sent me on loan. I have included the necessary in a brief way.

Do you think the illustration in Evans on page 40 shows dimes or dollars? It would be a cute illustration for our book. The 4 seems to have no base. Could the dime rack be that small? Is there a noticeable difference between the dime and dollar except in size?

Now let's get this book rolling. If you learn anything more about the Watters dollar or the Immune undertype I will send you a substitute page where needed or make additions to the galley proof.



Page 2  
Mr. Kenneth Bressett

January 22, 1962

I have decided that Haseltine Type Catalogue was a deception as to the 1804 and that he deliberately left out the Class I reverse.

I received an answer from Breen which gave me no information as he did not have it. In the meantime I obtained the information from the microfilm I ordered. He said, among other things, "I am still far from pleased with the 1804 matter".

Send me galley proofs in duplicate after your proof-readers have read and corrected them. You may send them in portions. I'll give you odds they spell Heman Ely as Herman.

Sorry this is a short letter, but I have another book to write. I am glad this 1804 job is over, even though I enjoyed every moment of it. This ought to be published by "Earthquake Publications", or "Coin Devaluation Services".

Incidentally, I think this book might even make a terrific article for Life Magazine. It involves big money sales, big names (DuPont, Wolfson, Carter, etc.), exposure of government, dethroning of kings, etc. Let me know how you feel about it. It would sell the book like crazy.

Please look at the last sentence of conclusions.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/ath

MB



WHITMAN  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY



Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

January 22, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Let me start off by thanking you for the very enjoyable weekend at your home. I hope you will tell Evelyn how much I enjoyed myself and pass on my thanks to her also.

I note that congratulations are in order for you on your election to the American Numismatic Society board. I hope, and I am sure you will do something to change their name from the "Ancient Numismatic Society" back to the American Numismatic Society.

Mrs. Freeman gave me another weighing of the Johns Hopkins specimen and it is within a fraction of their first weighing. Therefore, the weight as listed is correct. I have not yet seen or weighed the Watters specimen in Chicago but hope to do so soon.

I hope you have received William's material by now and have started to make the final draft. We will start setting type as soon as we receive some copy from you.

I am enclosing a ten dollar Confederate bill to replace the misprinted one in your box. If and when the time ever comes that you can get this piece for me, I certainly would appreciate this very much.



Lou Werner is still talking about a possible lawsuit if we discredit his business transaction in the book. You certainly should know the legal aspects of this and I only ask that you be certain that the section is worded properly so that Lou will not get too worked up over the whole thing. Perhaps we should reconsider using the photograph of his 1805 silver dollar. It would not make too much difference whether or not we have this picture.

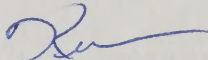
The following people are good candidates for reviewing the book; Let's narrow this list down to two or three and ask them to do the job.

V. Clain Stefanelli	Amon Carter
Ray Williamson	Bill Clark
Elston Bradfield	John Ford, Jr.
George Fuld	Lee Hewitt
J. Hewitt Judd	M. H. Bolender

Of all of these, I think that either Williamson or Clark would be the most logical persons.

Many thanks for the book on paper money that you gave me. It is a welcome addition to our library here. I am enclosing a catalog of all of the WHITMAN line. Please let me know if there is anything on this list that you would like to have.

'sever,



Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam

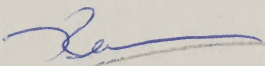
encl.



Memo From -

KEN BRESSETT

Please sign and return this so that  
I will be reimbursed for the fake  
bar cent.

  
A 35<sup>00</sup> toward  
expense



January 24, 1962

Mr. Raymond H. Williamson  
930 Rothowood Road  
Lynchburg, Virginia

Dear Ray:

Your wonderful notes and comments have all been received and they are worth publication in themselves. They have certainly reassured me of the fact that you cannot state anything which is not accurate and clear without getting your fingers slapped.

It is through you that I obtained the Sellers manuscript photocopy and it is the basis of my drawings. Wait until you see the pictures which are going to accompany this book as it will make the situation more vivid.

There is no more need for the thermofax copy which I sent you since you have made your suggestions in writing and you certainly can keep it.

Jacob Bausch Eckfeldt apparently was only 13 years old in 1859 so he was used by his father to sell the coins.

There is one of the 1836 steam presses at the Franklin Institute, in Philadelphia, according to information coming to me.

The problem of whether to date the monkeyshines at the mint in 1858 or 1859 is not too important. I realize that the coins might not have been made in 1858 but since that date was referred to in literature in the past I cannot ignore it. There was a gap in time between the making of the coins and their sale.



Page 2

January 24, 1962

Mr. Raymond H. Williamson

I sincerely want you to review the book and the remarks which may be made in the front of the book about your helpfulness make no difference, The book was finished when presented to you.

John Willem is in the West Indies Recreation business and I had a nice letter from him.

John Ford may write something but he may have his own ax to grind. You are the only one who is capable of writing a review without an ax to grind. I believe that if the book is worth while that your status in reviewing it is sincerely meaningful.

I will look into the matter of the hydraulic press. It could not have had a collar die since lettered edge half dollars could not be made with a collar die. Coins with a plain edge might be slipped out of a collar easily but coins with a reeded edge would stick in so tightly that it would require improved mechanics to extricate them. Even today there is a slight taper of 1% on the collar die so that the lower die can reject the struck coin.

Again, many thanks for your promptness and the ordeal which I inflicted upon you. Please apologize to your wife for letting me take so much of your time.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



January 24, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I have received all of Ray Williamson's suggestions and enclose a memorandum of changes which I would like to have made in the text. I hope they are clear. They can be made by pencil on the manuscript.

This does not count as a letter, as you should be too busy to read it.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



The following changes should be made in your manuscript:

Chapter IX 2C

*by Roberts*

"In planning a second journey, a letter dated October 8, 1834, from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, was written to John Forsythe, Secretary of State in Washington. This letter relative to gifts for the sultan of Muscat said:"

4C last line

Change "pedigrees" to "history" or "provenience." *'about their status'*

Chapter X K1 second line

✓ "who acquired an 1804 dollar from the United States Mint on May 9, 1843.

Chapter XII S7 fourth line

✓ "1858 scandal, but added to his collection specimens of most of the"

Chapter XV page T5, end of first paragraph

At the point it might be well to add some reference to the letter dated 1873 from William Dubois to Linderman regarding the experiment at the Mint in lettering the edges of coins. You will find this quoted in the A.J.N. of January 1874 page 65. This is very important and shows that DuBois experimented with this edge lettering at that time. It coincides almost exactly with the release date of the lettered edge coins.

Chapter XVI 5B line 2

*Class*  
"the Stickney 1804 dollar (Type I) because the Joseph Saxton medal-ruling"

Make some mention of the Mint's Class II being used for electro purposes if we are to use a photo of the piece.

*Add a side page. Electro types were also made by the Mint of the same design as the original (See illustration).*

Chapter XVIII page Z1

*Don't agree on this side. Very good as you wish.*  
No. 1: I think this would read easier if the dates were 1801, 1802, 1803 and 1804. We could set each numbered item in this section in bold faced type for greater emphasis if you wish. The explanatory notes, of course, should be in regular type.

*Don't change "pedigree" - it is dated*



NO Z5 No. 19: Should refer to the Class II 1804 dollars.

OK Z6 No. 21: Second line "crushed edge lettering and wire rim,"  
the 1804 eagle with no crosslet on the 4

May 4 Page 11-9 line 6 add "to note" (See illustration).  
Also prepare enlarged picture of coin showing  
the chattering



The story of the 1804 silver dollars has always been shrouded with mystery, misinformation, secrecy and myths, so let's begin our story with some of the very few bits of positive information that can be put together about this coin.

The answer to when these coins were first made is probably the easiest phase to begin with. Certainly these coins could not antedate 1836, since the closed collar press was not introduced into the minting operations until November of 1836 and was first used for striking the Gobrecht dollars and half dollars. Before this, all of the lettered edge coins had been struck on an open collar press to avoid flattening the edges.

The beading on the border of the 1804 dollars is the same as that on the Gobrecht dollars first coined in 1836 and is totally different from the radiate lines on the issues from 1794 to 1803. We must, therefore, conclude that since dies for the 1804 dollars were designed to incorporate this new feature and to be struck on the closed collar press, they must have been made contemporaneously with the Gobrecht dollars, which were produced from 1836 through 1839.

To further narrow down the time when the 1804 dollars were produced, we might note that the United States Mint apparently did not have such a coin in its possession when M. Alexandre Vattemare, the noted numismatist, visited the mint in 1838. The dollar first came to public attention when it was listed and pictured in "A Manual of Gold and Silver Coins" June, 1842 by Jacob Eckfeldt and William DuBois. The coin was illustrated on plate II with a picture executed by the medal ruling machine under the direction of Joseph Saxton. Saxton designed the ruling machine that copied a picture directly from an electrotype of the coin.



Therefore, we can narrow the time of the first appearance of the 1804 dollars to a period between 1838 and 1842 and since it seems reasonable to imagine that experimentation with the 1804 dies would not have been carried on until the engraver reached a slack period after producing the patterns of the Gobrecht design and before production started on the adopted design of 1840 and since the coins most likely must have been made quite a few months before the book was printed, I think it is reasonable to narrow the time of production down to a period between 1839 and 1841.

The question of why these coins were made is not so easily answered. However, the problem resolves itself to only a few possibly explanations.

The 1804 dies could have been made as an experiment to test the new minting techniques to be used on the newly acquired press. This seems possible, inasmuch as the Liberty bust type was the currently approved design used on the last minting of silver dollars. However, this would hardly explain the fact that the edge device on the coins was not changed to correspond with their facilities.

Another explanation could be found in the story concerning these coins that was prevalent about the time that they made their first appearance. This story may have had its origin in the mint or through some "official" source and seems to be the first of a long series of rumors about these dollars: "Some time during the administration of President Jackson, (1829-1837) a present was received from the Imaun of Muscat, and our Government, wishing to make a proper return to that magnate, caused amongst other things, a set of coins to be made for him, and the only



dollar dies existing being those of 1804, a few pieces were struck from them, one of which was used as intended, one retained in the mint, and one found its way into a private cabinet."

An early refutation to this rumor appeared in the American Journal of Numismatics in 1867 where it was stated that a gentleman of New York City caused an investigation to be made in the Palace of the Imaun in 1865 and learned that the dollar was not <sup>there</sup> ~~made~~ and had not been there for a long time.

All things considered, the following circumstances and explanations seem to bring us the closest to the truth as to why these coins were made: In 1838 William DuBois, the assistant assayer at the mint, conceived the idea of forming a Mint Collection of coins consisting of perfect specimens of the regular coins and patterns issued by the institution each year, supplemented with specimens of many different types of coins that were available to him from coins returned to the mint to be melted for their bullion value. In June of 1838 Adam Eckfeldt, the chief coiner of the mint, gave a few valuable pieces to form the nucleus of a Mint Collection. The collection grew year by year by making exchanges with collectors, by purchases, and through adding United States coins at cost and by saving foreign coins from the melting pot.

In an article in the American Journal of Numismatics in 1872, William DuBois stated that in 1842 he was forming this coin cabinet for the mint and was often helped by prominent collectors, such as Joseph Mickley who brought coins to him as a result of European trips. Thus the fact that



William DuBois was eager to obtain choice specimens for the Mint Collection and willing to trade desirable duplicates to obtain them, is fairly well established. This fact is further confirmed by his transaction of May 9, 1843, when Matthew A. Stickney obtained a specimen of the 1804 dollar directly from him in exchange for "Pine Tree money and rarities not in their collection, one piece of which has since proved to be exceedingly rare: The Immune Columbia in gold, 1785".

The fact that Joseph Mickley was one of the earliest recipients of an 1804 dollar and the fact that at least two of these coins found their way to Europe, is of paramount importance in establishing the theory that the 1804 silver dollars could only have been made as a means of creating a rare and desirable United States coin in order to add a specimen to the United States Collection and to create duplicates to be used in bartering for other rare coins to add to the Mint Collection.

The question of who made the 1804 dollars is now fairly well resolved by the above facts. Undoubtedly, William DuBois, the assistant assayer, should take credit for the major part of this plot; quite probably he was assisted by his very close friend, Jacob Eckfeldt, the mint assayer, with whom he became even closer associated when he married his sister, Susanna Eckfeldt in 1840.



January 25, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

Your letter of January 22 is at hand and thank you for your congratulations as to ANS. I certainly hope to try to do what I know a lot of people would like to see done.

The \$10.00 Confederate bill with the fold is enclosed and the worse that can happen is that I will have to ask for it back if there is a complaint. It is certainly my pleasure to see that you have it.

I am returning photocopies of the changes which you suggested and I agree with some but not all. Please make the appropriate changes as indicated. You will note that one of them requires an enlarged picture showing the chattering evidence.

The silver bar cent as a partial reimbursement of my expenses is appreciated but I cannot accept it for editorial work merely for expenses.

We are not going to discredit Mr. Werner's transaction in our book as his name is not mentioned nor is the Ostheimer name except with respect to the reference to the articles which were published and a subsequent statement as to what the articles showed. I think the picture of the 1805 dollar is interesting; however, it is up to Whitman Publishing Company to take a position on the risk of such matters. I do not find it morally justifiable to be inhibited from telling the truth particularly when the truth has already been published.

Ray Williamson will write a review of the book. I did not think of Bill Clark but I think he will be hesitant because ANS would be scared of not receiving donations from the wealthy owners of 1804 dollars. Elston Bradfield would make an excellent reviewer. Lee Hewitt would make an excellent reviewer. The question is whether we can use more than one review and I imagine we can.



Page 2

Mr. Kenneth Bressett

January 25, 1962

I am looking forward to hearing from you with respect to the Life magazine idea as the more I think of it the better it sounds. It could be a non-technical article.

Please add the following names in the acknowledgment and put them in alphabetical order:

Aaron Feldman  
James B. Rhoads  
Ronald L. Heise  
Harold E. Hufford

I will give further consideration to the restrike half dollar matter as soon as I have the pictures back as I have not come to any specific conclusions as to how we should go on this item.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



1/28/62

Dear Tom:

I have checked Dick's comment about not telling the reader that the Callans struck in 1804 were not dated 1804. I find that I stated in Chap I (I-5) and Chap. II (J-5) that the dates were not indicated. I believe this is better than telling the reader too early. It doesn't hurt the logic to state that they were "not 1804".

I have corrected a possible misinterpretation in Chap II by moving the top of the Callan's to the place of the first Callan's.

I have also corrected a possible misinterpretation in Chap II by moving the top of the Callan's to the place of the first Callan's. I have also corrected a possible misinterpretation in Chap II by moving the top of the Callan's to the place of the first Callan's.

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Yours truly,  
Tom



W H I T M A N  
P U B L I S H I N G  
C O M P A N Y



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1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

February 2, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Things are going along very well with the 1804 dollar book. I hope that we can start setting type next week.

I have made all of the changes that you indicated in your last several letters. The photographs are pretty well assembled now and I will send you proofs of these as soon as the plates are made. The 1801-03 proof dollar photos are fairly good and will certainly be usable. I am returning your negatives herewith. The date of the Carter specimen did not make a very good enlargement. I am attempting to use some of the other photos that I have to obtain the best enlargement of this date.

Many thanks for sending me the Confederate ten dollar bill. I really do appreciate this but will bear in mind that you may need it back someday.

Dr. Stefanelli informs me that the edge of the 1804 Class II dollar shows some slight traces of a reeded edge as well as an assorted number of all kinds of scratches. He also states that the Immune Columbia was struck over a 1775 guinea.



Regarding the Linderman-DuBois correspondence in the AJN January 1875, page 65, my interpretation of this is that in 1860 an experiment was carried on in the mint to see if the edges of coins could be lettered. DuBois claims that it was done before, and although the technique was forgotten, they should be able to do it again. The 1860 experimental half dollar, Judd No. 269, gives proof that the experiment was at least tried.

I will return the photographs of the restrrike half dollars as soon as possible. You can make additional comments about them and add this to the galley proofs, if you wish.

'sever,



Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam

encl.



W H I T M A N  
P U B L I S H I N G  
C O M P A N Y



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1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

February 9, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Enclosed herewith you will find a check for \$250 to cover your expenses on the 1804 dollar project. I hope that this represents some just compensation for all of the work that you have gone through. I realize that this would not pay for all of your trips, etc. but if it is satisfactory with you, will you be kind enough to sign two copies of the enclosed release form and return them to me. You may keep one copy for your files. This will cover the legal aspects of the book and we can go right to work setting the type, etc.

I should have galley proofs for you in about two weeks. The photographs are being processed right now and I will have proofs of these to send to you for writing captions within one week.

Everything is going along smoothly and efficiently.

'sever,

Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam  
encl.

I think that you must rewrite a section concerning the 1833-35 restrike half dollars.

In your chapter "Size of the Dies" page 9, you should at least add a last line: "The fact that a regularly used 1836 reverse die was later altered and used as the reverse of the 1833-35 half dollars also confirms this".

Here are the few facts that we have concerning these restrike half dollars:

1. The reverse die was that of a regular 1836 half, used for proof coins and later altered for use on the restrike half dollars.
2. The obverse dies were apparently never used for any other coins. They are not listed in Beistle's book.
3. They were all struck at the Mint from government dies on a closed collar press.
4. The edges were lettered prior to striking.
5. All are very rare; they were not sold to collectors who received the 1804 dollars.
6. A set was placed in the Mint Collection probably with the 1804 dollar.
7. They were not sold to Haseltine.
8. They were undoubtedly an experiment for testing the closed collar press at a time when the open collar press was still in use.



List of "Numismatic Notes and Monographs missing from  
our set:

3	66
4	67
5	68
6	69
8, 9	70
10	71
13	72
14	73
15	74
16	75
17	76
18	77
19	78
22	79
23	80
24	81
25	83
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We would be happy to buy any  
of these that you can supply.

February 13, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bessett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

Thank you for the folders and the pamphlets. I will experiment with the former and will, in due course, study the latter.

I am hoping to have some of the galley proofs before the end of this week as I am going out of town for a few days and could read them while riding around.

Please change the footnote No. 118 to the following if it has not already been set:

(118) Numisma, Vol. 8, No. 6 (Nov. 1884);  
Vol. 9, No. 4 (July, 1885), reprinted  
in The Numismatist, Vol. 50, No. 7  
(July, 1937), p. 615.

I believe we should send galley proofs to Lynn and Walter as a matter of courtesy. We should not ask them to go over them but merely give them the opportunity to volunteer if they wish. Ford probably should have a page proof and Williamson a page proof when those are ready.

The pictures are lovely which you sent me and I look forward to seeing the others.

I do not interpret the AJN article as indicating that experiments were made with lettered edges as this was old stuff which was long since known in 1860 and it is not specifically stated that they did that type of experimenting.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb



## RECEIPT, RELEASE, AND ASSIGNMENT

I have prepared and delivered to you, Western Printing & Lithographing Company, the work described below, for which you have paid me \$. 250.00 . . . , receipt of which I hereby acknowledge, as payment in full for all rights of every kind and nature to said work, as well as for the manuscript or drawings themselves as the case may be, and I hereby release, transfer, and assign to you, your successors, privies, and assigns ("you" for the purpose of this agreement shall hereinafter be deemed to include and refer to your successors, privies and assigns), all rights of every kind and nature in and to said work, without limitation as to time or territory, and I agree that you may use the work in any way whatsoever, in whole or in part, edited or altered or adapted to fit your requirements as you may think best. At your sole discretion you may use my name in connection with your use of said work, except that if you materially alter or change the work you may not then use my name as the sole author. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as obligating you to use said work or any adaptation or results thereof, unless you desire to do so.

Description:

Manuscript entitled

THE FANTASTIC 1804 DOLLAR

I agree to execute any and all instruments that may be necessary or proper to confirm your ownership in and to said work, including, if you so request, renewals or extensions of copyrights and assignments thereof to you. If said work or any adaptation or result thereof features or is used in connection with any character owned by or under license to you, I recognize that my work thereby becomes a part of such owned or licensed material and that I am not entitled to claim authorship and, further, I agree not to make any public announcement of my connection with such use without your written permission. I affirm that said work is original with me and the product of my own efforts and that the same is free of any claim of any person or party.

Date.....

Eric P. Newman

Return immediately one signed copy of this Receipt, Release, and Assignment to  
WESTERN PRINTING & LITHOGRAPHING COMPANY

*Editorial Department, Racine, Wisconsin*

February 14, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I know you have to comply with a lot of red tape but the document which you sent will not be satisfactory. The part of the book which I wrote is not being sold to your company. It is a permission by this foundation to publish the item and to copyright it. This organization would be the one to whom the expense allowance should be given and I am sending back your check for that purpose.

I recognize that your printed form has a lot of things in it which you really don't mean, such as your right to change it, the right not to publish it, and your right to permit others to take license under it. I also feel that if LIFE magazine wants to use the material and wants to pay anything it should not go to your organization. I will write an agreement which I hope will satisfy you but which will preserve the dignity of the situation and be fair to all concerned.

Incidentally, what did you ever find out from your Public Relations as to the possibilities in LIFE magazine. If they don't do anything about it I think I will as soon as I have galley proofs.

Please don't let anything delay setting the type as these technical difficulties above referred to will be worked out.

Sincerely yours,

Eric P. Newman, President  
ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC  
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb



WHITMAN  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY



*Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.*

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

February 16, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I have your two recent letters. I will make the changes to footnote No. 118 as you suggested in your letter. I agree with you about sending galley proofs to Lynn and Walter and will make an extra set of page proofs for you to send to Ford and Williamson if you want to. I doubt that I will have galley proofs for you before two weeks from today. They started setting type yesterday and I suspect it will take quite some time.

I spent Wednesday in Chicago with F. Newell Childs who has custody of the Watters 1804 dollar. He was very enthusiastic about our whole project and will give us his full co-operation. He only asks that we list the coin as being "In the Childs Family". The Watters coin weighs 416.7 gr. It is apparently just like all of the other originals and has the same die breaks and crushed edge lettering. It has a very slight raised rim around the edge but nothing like the proof dollars of 1801-03. This coin is in perfect proof condition, absolutely flawless except for a light coating of tarnish.

I will have your check made out as you requested and return it to you with this letter. Go ahead and rewrite the contract to your satisfaction. I will then see if our Rights and Royalties department can accept it. I am sure

you understand the form that I sent is simply our "standard" that everyone gets. This book is somewhat of an exception and I know you will use good form in writing your contract. I talked to our advertising agency about the possibilities of a story in LIFE magazine. They have not yet given me any report about what they can do. I have also talked the whole thing over with a free lance feature story writer and expect something from him any day now. I will let you know what develops along these lines and I am sure that something worthwhile will come out.

'sever,



Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam

*Just received a nasty letter from Walter. He is still mad about the whole thing - accepted the money however, and returned the signed release.*



WHITMAN  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY



*Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.*

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

February 20, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I have received your contract and have discussed it with our Rights and Royalties staff. They advise me that it will be all right to make whatever kind of agreement is satisfactory between the two of us. I am, therefore, having the document typed with a few minor corrections and will submit it for your comments or approval.

The only changes necessary are the inclusion of the phrase "subject to inspection and approval" concerning the rights to publish summaries of the book, and the technicalities of payment to you for subsequent printings of the book.

Our original agreement was to print 10,000 of these books and the payment that you have received is to cover this portion of our commitment. You are to understand that 10,000 copies means that this is the figure indicated on our printing order. As with any printing job, we expect to receive approximately 100 copies more or less than the figure we request. This is a common printing practice.

If, after selling these books we feel that the market is sufficient to warrant printing of another edition, we will request any proper changes from you and then proceed to print another 10,000 copies. You will be paid at the rate of 5¢ a copy for all additional printings after the first edition. The money will be paid to you in a lump sum when

we decide how many copies we intend to print for any subsequent editions. The sum will be based upon the total number of books that we print and not on the number of sales. There will be no semi-annual reports or accountings other than the statement telling how many books we will print for each edition.

The reason for this is that to make our books come out right, we have to charge editorial expenses to what is known as the plate account. This should be a lump-sum entry and cannot be written off as a royalty fee. I do not believe this should make any difference to you since the total paid to you will be based on the number of copies that we print and the amount of money can be whatever you specify. I merely suggest 5¢ a copy as an appropriate figure. This would mean \$500 paid to you on a printing of 10,000 copies. We can argue the point a bit if this does not seem satisfactory.

Walter has been paid \$250 for his part in the book and Lynn has been paid \$150. It is my understanding that their names are to appear on the title page as collaborators but definitely not on the cover as authors. Is this satisfactory with you? I should also mention that the printing figures given to you are to be held in confidence, since we never announce the number of copies printed on any of the WHITMAN items.

A feature article writer in Racine is very much interested in doing a story about the book to be published in Life, Esquire, Readers Digest or some similar magazine. I believe he can do a good job and I will give you full details as soon as he comes up with something concrete.

Sincerely,

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY



Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor

KEB:jam

encl.



Memo From -

KEN BRESSETT

2/20/62

The Type for the book is over half finished.  
I should have proofs within a few days.

Proofs of the photographic plates just came in. They goofed on a few but I will get the balance as soon as possible.

Don't worry about the quality of these proofs. The finished printing job will be much better.

Tell me what is missing, if anything, or what changes you would like to make in the photos.

Return proofs to me with your captions.

Correct or revise the contract and return it to me for signing ~~and type~~ or you can type a new one

# ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

February 28, 1962

Western Printing & Lithographing Company  
Racine,  
Wisconsin

Gentlemen:

We have prepared and have delivered to you, Western Printing & Lithographing Company, a manuscript entitled THE FANTASTIC 1804 DOLLAR. For the consideration set forth herein we hereby release transfer and assign to you, your successors, privies and assigns (referred to herein in the aggregate as you) all rights of every kind and nature in and to said manuscript without limitation as to time and territory. The word manuscript as used herein shall include the original text, drawings, photographs as well as amendments, changes, adaptations, edited versions and revisions thereof in whole or in part.

You shall not be obligated to use said manuscript in any way, but if it is not published by you in hard cover book form by October 1, 1962, you shall reassign all rights to us without further compensation, provided that such date shall be extended to the extent of any delays for causes beyond your reasonable control.

You are familiar with the preliminary co-operation given by Walter Breen and Lynn Glaser who did not write any part of the manuscript and who have to date not seen any of it. The customary citation and use of previously published background material is also known to you. You also know that your editor, Kenneth Bressett, has written a portion to be added to the manuscript prepared by us and has participated in the research and editing. The manuscript was entirely written by Eric P. Newman on our behalf and we now have full rights thereto and to make this assignment and agreement. Subject to the above the manuscript is original and free of any claims by any person or party. This organization will co-operate in editing and revision.

Either you or we or both of us may permit a digest or review of the manuscript to be published by a non-numismatic magazine (such as Life) or by newspapers generally, at the time and referring to the

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION  
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION  
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS



first publication of the book and any proceeds therefrom shall be divided between us. Each will co-operate for such purposes to stimulate interest in the book and the subject matter.

We reserve the right for educational purposes after you have published the book, to grant to numismatists and news publications the permission to print short summaries, discussions, digests, reviews and clarifications based thereon, subject to inspection and approval by the authors, so long as no compensation is paid to us over the related expenses incurred after the completion of the manuscript. All such editorial uses shall refer to your publication of the manuscript. This retained right shall not prevent you from undertaking any such action with or without compensation to you. We will not, however, authorize, consent to or grant to others any right to publish the manuscript or substantial portions thereof in any way which will compete with or detract from the sale of the published manuscript by you.

The use of the manuscript in connection with oral programs shall not be restricted to anyone by you or by us.

This assignment, etc., is made by us without cost to you other than reimbursement to us of \$250.00 towards out-of-pocket expenses and no payment for personal services has been or will be made by us to anyone in connection with the manuscript. The first printing of this book shall consist of approximately 10,000 copies. In the event that further printings of the book are undertaken, you will make an additional payment to us of 5¢ for each copy printed. Payment will be based on the estimated number of completed copies printed each time a new edition of the book is made. Said payments to be made to us at the time of each printing and no further accounting will be made. Additional payments may be made to us as reimbursements for expenses involved in making revisions to each subsequent edition of the book.

You are to return the original manuscript to us and make available to us without charge 48 copies of the book when published over and above the presentation copies for newsworthy purposes, but no sales of any such copies will be made.

Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society

By 

President

I, Eric P. Newman, as an individual hereby confirm the foregoing statements as to the manuscript, etc., and will execute any further documents required by the parties. February 28, 1962.

  
Eric P. Newman

Accepted and approved March 5, 1962  
Western Printing & Lithographing Co.

By 

Kenneth E. Bressett

February 28, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

The pictures arrived and they are very exciting.  
Naturally, there is still a lot of work to be done.

I am enclosing the contract, duly executed. Please  
sign and return two copies to me.

In accordance with your request, I am giving con-  
sidering <sup>attention</sup> to suggesting that there could be put on  
the title page the following:

Associates in research  
Walter Breen and Lynn Glaser

I would not want to use the word "collaborators".  
This portion should not be in large type.

The third type of chapter heading is, by all odds,  
the best.

Tell your feature writer to forget Readers Digest  
or Esquire. Life, or Time, is better.

Please answer me, specifically, with respect to the  
plates as to whether printed matter can be super-  
imposed on these plates as we must have lines con-  
necting the matings and designations of the varieties,  
etc. I am enclosing such an example.

The 1805 over 4 half dollars are too poor <sup>to publish</sup> and I will  
let you take pictures of my specimens, if you wish.

It will be necessary to have a blowup of the missing  
curl on the 1804 dollar and I hope you are making one.



February 28, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company

In the enlargement of the 1801, 1802 and 1803 proof dollars the 1802 obverse needs treatment. The upper right has a line on the edge which should be eliminated. The lower left is ragged but perhaps nothing can be done about it.

As to the edge decoration cut which you prepared, the lower section is not wide enough to fill in the box. It must be as long as the upper section and I suggest that you lead it out broadening the space between the letters of "DOLLAR" OR UNIT". Another suggestion is to make the upper box smaller. You straighten it out.

I believe that on all pages where an obverse and a reverse of a coin is shown they should <sup>be</sup> the obverse on top of the reverse rather than side by side.

The enlargement of your 1836 half dollar reverse is too dark and you should make a new print as it spoils the beautiful enlargement plate.

I see no purpose in having one plate of half dollars enlarged and another plate showing their matings as one set ought to be adequate. As you indicate, it would be much more desirable to split the half dollar group into two pages or else consolidate and show only one reverse connected to the four obverses.

With respect to trying to show the Swiss Shooting Thaler undertype, I suggest you enlarge the lower portion so as to be the same size as to fill the width of the page with most of the diameter.

I am looking forward to the receipt of the galley proof.

Ray Williamson agreed to write a review which could be used to ballyhoo the book and also agreed that others should write one also.

-3-

February 28, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company

Let's get this book out of our hair. I have other  
fish to fry.

Thanks for all of your help.

Best wishes for a happy proof reading.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



March 6, 1962

Dear Ken,

Here is an improvement of  
the obverse of the wide date  
1805 over 1804 half dollar. Make  
a new print which is not so dark.

Sincerely,

*From the desk of*  
ERIC P. NEWMAN

WHITMAN  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY



Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

March 9, 1962

Dear Eric:

I seem to have several letters from you and will try to answer them all, but if I miss any points, it is because I am not taking time to reread everything. I assure you I have carefully gone over your material and done everything you have requested.

All of your corrections and notes have been inserted in the manuscript. The type is now set and I should have galley proofs within a matter of hours.

I am trying my best to re-make the photographic plates to suit you. There is going to be a problem with the "missing curl" since the original photographs are exactly as shown on the plates. I am returning your negative of the "rust at U". I think these are an improvement over what we had previously. I have not received new prints of the 1805 over 4 half dollar yet.

I am not too pleased with the way the feature writer is handling the story. He thinks it should go in one of the syndicated Sunday supplements which is not a bad idea, but perhaps this is not what you had in mind. Let us know if you want to mastermind this project or where we should go from here.

We will be able to make diagrams of the mating of dies as indicated in your letter. The project is just about completed now and soon we can get this thing off our minds.

The contract is satisfactory and I am enclosing the original copy for your files.

'sever,

Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam  
encl.



Mar.18,1962

Dear Ken:

Enclosed is a page to follow the title page or be put at an appropriate place in front. I just found this quotation and it couldn't be better. It also happens to be on a John Law satirical medal, but there is no point of mentioning that.

In Dye's Coin Encyclopedia there is a terrific comment about the 1804 on the first page: We must include it.

"There is no authentic history of the 1804 dollar. Tradition, however, is 'thousand-tongued' in its regard."

AJN Vol 16 p.44 -- William E. DuBois collected counterfeits and believe me he really collected one about which we are writing.

I do not have Numismatist Vol.11 p.63 (1898) which has something about the 1804 dollar. Would you send me a digest, photocopy or some indication so I can cite it somewhere and not leave it out.

I also do not have AJN Vol 38 p.92 where there must be an 1804 dollar comment. Will you get me a copy of it. I do not wish to leave it out.

I have at least 10 additional citations primarily from AJN which I recently found, one of which you should read about the square based 4 ( Vol.39 p.28 July 1904).

WHERE FOR GOD'S SAKE ARE THE GALLEY PROOFS. I CANNOT START A NEW BOOK UNTIL THIS ONE IS CLEANED UP BY PUTTING MY FILES AND BOOKS AWAY. SEND ME FOUR GALLEY PROOFS. 2 for me, 1 for Ford, 1 for Williamson and I will return 1 corrected. Send manuscript also.

No doubt I will hear from you about seeing you Saturday morning if you think that is practical. Bring them all then unless they get to me before that.

Cocconspirator

Eric P.

March 29, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

The proof has arrived and my son is proof-reading it because he is on Spring vacation. The type is beautiful. With everything looking so nice I should be floating on air.

I hope that you are working on a picture of the broken hair curl on an 1804 obverse to conform in size to the two prints we have of the 1801 and 1802. The more I think of it the more essential this picture is.

You may have planned for the names of Walter and Lynn to be in smaller type than the authors, but I cannot agree to "collaboration" as they didn't write one word of the book, nor did they contribute any new thoughts. I will assure you that I worked at least twenty-five times as much as anyone else has on this project so I do not feel that I have to satisfy the vanity of anyone. I left your position up to you to evaluate.

In order to contact Life Magazine I need prints of all of the illustrations. Can those be sent to me promptly.

Best wishes,

Eric P. Newman

EPN/mak



March 30, 1962

Dear Ken,

It is rather essential that we find the proper spelling of Koch & Co., who apparently sold the Berg dollar. It is spelled "Koch" and "Kach".

Sincerely,

*From the desk of*  
ERIC P. NEWMAN

April 2, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

Your typesetter did a superb job and most of the changes which have been made are additions and corrections. Will you therefore be kind enough to have them made. All but galley 15 are returned and galley 15 will be sent tomorrow. I believe the book can be rolled out very fast now.

I am also sending to you the material which has not been set and the original of the pedigree history. I am retaining the balance of the manuscript because I do not think you need it any more.

I do not know what to do about the illustrations which you sent me. I have no way of placing them in the right position until the page proofs are set and suggest that you do the necessary.... If you want me to tell you approximately where I think the pictures should be I can do so. Certainly pictures which only fill a part of the page should be at the top of the page with a line under the description separating that from the text.

I am naturally looking forward to receiving an extra set of pictures to try on Life Magazine and also would like to have a picture of the 1804 broken curl tip. I am holding the pictures until you tell me what to do.

I presume the Library of Congress number ought to be in by now.



-2-

Mr. Kenneth Bressett

April 2, 1962

I hope you approve the revisions which I made and you may send me new galley proofs if you feel that is desirable before page proofs are made up. Full speed ahead!

Best regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

W H I T M A N  
P U B L I S H I N G  
C O M P A N Y



*Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.*

1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

April 3, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I have just received the galley proofs from you and have taken them to the composing room for corrections. As soon as I get the revised proofs, I will make a page-form dummy and after that is completed, we can look forward to some speedy action on the book. I will need the set of photographic proofs that you have before I can complete the page dummy. Return them to me immediately. I have already mailed you a duplicate set for use in your Life magazine article.

I am happy that you did not make any more corrections that you did--you apparently kept them to a minimum, which will make the typesetters happy. The correct spelling that you asked for is Koch. I am in agreement with your suggested wording covering the work that Glaser, Breen and I did on the book. Naturally, I am fully aware of the amount of work that you did on this project. I am sure that you understand that I worked hard on it also and must justify this time that has taken me away from other duties at the office.

I now feel that it would be best for you to write the Life magazine article the way that you want it to appear. We can use any of the pictures that you think appropriate and they would perhaps also want photographs of you or even both of us working on the book or examining one of the coins. As soon as you have your article prepared, our advertising agency will do all that they can to get it published. They assure me that they have the proper contact in New York City, and if this person can't get it published, then no one can.

I will use the proper picture of the broken hair curl on the 1801 dollar and also one of the 1804 dollar. The remaining pictures will be prepared just prior to printing the books. We will get to see proofs of them, but do not worry about them for the time being.



-2-

I have not forgotten about the Library of Congress card number. I have not ordered it yet, however, because I do not know the number of pages or the ultimate price of the book. I should be able to determine this information next week and will write to the proper authorities at that time.

I have just noticed that Blaise Dantone exhibited an 1804 dollar recently. I have written to him for information and hope that it turns out to be the Hydeman specimen.

'sever,



Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam

EDISON BROTHERS STORES INC.

400 WASHINGTON AVENUE • ST. LOUIS 2, MO.

ERIC P. NEWMAN  
SECRETARY

4/3/62

Dear Ken:

Here is the missing galley proof —  
I had mental turmoil over it as I wanted  
it to be convincing.

I am awaiting word from you on the  
way I can help on the pictures.

I need the enlarged picture of the  
1804 curl, perhaps the Smithsonian  
specimen is best for this purpose.

I contacted LIFE and the suggestion  
is being mailed to Chicago.

I am ready to add more material  
on the 1833, 34, + 35 half dollars if you  
want it. They were positively struck in 1836  
or they couldn't have used the dies for production in  
that year.

Could we send a galley proof to Walter & Hyman  
so they can't complain or criticize. This will  
give them a chance to make corrections if they  
wish. I wouldn't want them to write nasty  
stuff afterwards if it can be avoided.

Call me if any of the above need  
discussion.

Poor George is sick — I was afraid of  
it and warned him often. Best from Eric



MEMORANDUM

April 6, 1962

TO Mr. Ken Bressett

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Ken,

✓ Please change the second line of the first picture title on the galley proof so that the words "use normal edge lettering" are between the word "dollar" and the "," following it. *with*

✓ In the illustration for the proof Eagle, change the word "Dated" to "Antedated".

EPN/atb

W H I T M A N  
P U B L I S H I N G  
C O M P A N Y



*Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.*

1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

April 9, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I have all of your recent correspondence and will try to answer you in greater detail later this week. Just now we are in the process of moving to a larger office and everything is in pretty much of a turmoil around here.

I would like to see more information about the 1833, 1834 and 1835 half dollars in the book. I feel that they must have had some direct connection with the plans to produce silver dollars at the same time. In my estimation, the proof half dollars were a legitimate experiment, but the silver dollars must have been an afterthought. If you have something along these lines that we can include in the book, you should get it to me as quickly as possible. I do not want to hold the book up any more than necessary at this time.

I have mailed proofs to Walter for his edification and/or criticism. I heard from Blaise Dantone today and his dollar is undoubtedly an altered date. It will be best if we just completely ignore it.

Your rough draft for the Life Magazine article seems to cover the basic outline of the story. I assume that you plan to make a much more detailed and elaborate story out of it, even though I realize we cannot take up too much of their space, and following their usual style, we should have approximately 20 per cent editorial and 80 per cent pictures. I am sure that they will want some "action" pic-



-2-

tures of us examining one of the coins. This could be faked, of course, since we have both examined 1804 dollars and there is no need to go to the bother of borrowing a genuine coin. On the other hand, if you want to bring in another prominent personality, I believe that F. Newell Childs might not object to posing with his coin. His company is nationally known as the largest agent for U. S. government bonds and he and his family have quite a colorful background connected with government financing.

I will write to you or call you later this week as things develop.

'sever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ken Bressett', written in a cursive style.

Ken Bressett

jam

April 10, 1962

Please make the following changes:

Galley 27 - Footnote 157 - Remove period at end of footnote and add:

; The Numismatist, Vol. 11, No. 3 (Mar., 1898), p. 64

Galley 27 - Change fourth text line after footnote 162 to read:

Although it was from different dies than known 1804 dollars, it was tested

Galley 28 - In the second line of text substitute: "of an" for "from the"

Galley 28 - in SUMMARY - Change 1 (a) to read:

(a) Their raised flat border and dentilation was of a style first adopted at the U.S.Mint in 1828.

Galley 28 - In SUMMARY - Add to the end of section 1 (d):  
The missing curl tip is not found on any other U. S. dollars and the last dies cut with the head punch were not cut in normal chronological order.

Galley 28 - In SUMMARY - Change 4 (f) to read:

(f) Their dies were destroyed in 1860 instead of being deposited in safekeeping at that time.



April 10, 1962

Please make the following changes:

<sup>24</sup>  
Galley 27 - Footnote 157 - Remove period at end of footnote and add:

✓ ; The Numismatist, Vol. 11, No. 3 (Mar., 1898), p. 64. ✓

<sup>24</sup>  
Galley 27 - Change fourth text line after footnote 162 to read:

✓ Although it was from different dies than known 1804 dollars, it was tested ✓

<sup>25</sup>  
Galley 28 - In the second line of text substitute: "of an" for "from the"

<sup>25</sup>  
Galley 28 - in SUMMARY - Change 1 (a) to read:

✓ (a) Their raised flat border and dentilation was of a style first adopted at the U.S.Mint in 1828. ✓

<sup>25</sup>  
Galley 28 - In SUMMARY - Add to the end of section 1 (d):  
✓ The missing curl tip is not found on any other U. S. dollars and the last dies cut with the head punch were not cut in normal chronological order. ✓

<sup>26</sup>  
Galley 28 - In SUMMARY - Change 4 (f) to read:

✓ (f) Their dies were destroyed in 1860 instead of being deposited in safekeeping at that time. ✓

*Entered*

April 13, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

The Life Magazine thought has been submitted to Chicago. Anything which is submitted to New York would have to come back to Chicago in any event. Whether they are interested, I have no idea, but the chances I would give are minimal. It certainly is not worth wasting too much time over.

I am enclosing further changes on the 1804 Dollar article to try to add more material concerning the half dollars. I have been studying the situation continually and have come to the conclusion that these were perfectly normal dies made with the new style borders but never used for production. I hope you are satisfied with these additions to the manuscript.

There is only one more thing which is bothering me, and that is the possibility that the 1804 dollars were cut and struck in 1836. We have indicated that it is the 1838-42 period. Do you think we ought to expand that so as to make it the 1836-42 period to cover ourselves completely in the event the devilment took place in 1836? Frankly, I think they were too busy in 1836 making the new machinery work and making the Gobrecht dollars to do any fiddling around.

As soon as you get the comments from Walter will you shift them to me so that I can study them to see whether corrections should be made in accordance with his suggestions ---- this, of course, assumes that Walter will make such.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



4/13/62

Please make the following changes:

✓ Galley 18 Change line 3 of section 1 . Change "unique" to "two"  
line 4 " " .Change "farthing" to "farthings"

Galley 12 Footnote 51 Change entire footnote to read as follows:

✓ 51 Some proof 1833, 1834, and 1835 ~~half~~ half dollars have raised flat borders, but not business strikes.

✓ Galley 28 Section 1 (d) Change "head" to "bust" as I forgot to do it in my 4/10/62 correction

Put period at end of footnote ~~21~~ 157

✓ Galley 21 make the 11th line from the bottom read:

production. As heretofore shown, they cannot even be classified as experimental.

MEMORANDUM

April 18, 1962

TO Mr. Kenneth Bressett

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Ken:

I am embarrassed to say that we missed a citation in A.J.N. which was in the most recent Coin World article. I am therefore enclosing an insert to be put in the 1858 Scandal chapter. The exact place to put it in, I cannot tell you, because I do not have the manuscript with me.

It just shows that one never can be sure of having all of the information.

I had a delightful evening with Jim Wells the other night.

Is Walter going to write you - or is he in a trance?

Sincerely,

EPN/atb



WHITMAN  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY



Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

April 18, 1962

Dear Eric:

I have incorporated all of your latest revisions on to the galley proofs and should have some revised copies within the next few days. From this point on we must make only absolutely necessary changes, since it will hold us up considerably to make major revisions. The typesetters were appalled to think you would put in additional footnotes with numbers like 145a. They insisted that I re-number every footnote to keep them in proper order.

Your synopsis for Life Magazine is adequate, I am sure. As you say, they will no doubt want to re-write it. Our agency still maintains that they have a very good chance of getting this article published, and in the event that you do not get a satisfactory response from your inquiry to Chicago, we should give them a chance.

I liked what you had to say about the 1833-6 half dollars. This will make a good addition to the book. I see no urgency about changing the 1838-42 period to 1836-42. The minor discrepancy does not harm the theory of our book, and I am in agreement with you that the devilment took place closer to 1840.

I have heard nothing from Walter and, frankly, doubt that he will make any further contributions.

Under separate cover I have sent to you a copy of the English catalog which has just been completed.

Sincerely,

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

Ken Bressett

KEB: jam

April 23, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

In the name of Allah, let's get rolling! I look forward to the receipt of the corrected galley proofs any moment.

I will have to make a slight change because the 06 over 05 Quarter Eagle seems to have been a die used both before and after alteration.

I will have to make a change to add George Eckfeldt, who, apparently, was in the engraving room, and adds to the nepotism.

I am not too worried about your typesetters being upset because of the footnotes having an "a" after a number. Nothing could be of less importance.

Has the Library of Congress matter been taken care of?

We still have an index to prepare.

I have heard nothing from Life Magazine and do not feel it is worth while to waste any further effort on it unless Life shows some interest - which they may may at any moment.

I hope that now you can give me your full cooperation with respect to getting the book finished and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



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1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

April 27, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Believe me, I am just as anxious as you are to finish the 1804 dollar book and get started on other projects. One of our biggest problems is the changes that you continue to send to me.

Under separate cover I am sending you the final corrected proofs. Make the changes that are absolutely necessary on these, but try to keep them to a minimum and let's call this the finish of the book. I will use a duplicate set of these proofs to make a page form dummy and it will not be long now before the book goes to press. RETURN YOUR CORRECTED SET OF PROOFS TO ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

The Library of Congress card number will be ordered as soon as I know the exact number of pages in the book. It will all be taken care of in due time.

'sever,

Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

April 28, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

This is Thursday morning. The final group of page proofs just arrived. I don't see how it is possible to make a July 1 dead line at Hannibal. I hope you are correcting the page proofs and sending me copies.

On page 16 there is a problem of it being too long and therefore I would like you to reset the last line of the second last paragraph so that it reads:

"sparingly for 1805 coinage, and were almost new when overdated".

This will enable you to combine two lines into one, and solve the problem.

On page 52 your proofreaders have caught an error of mine where "an" should have been put in place of "a".

On page 57 on the last line of the last paragraph ending on the page there is a reference to illustrations on pages 33 and 35. These illustrations are pages 39 and 41 and this must be corrected.

On page 69, please change "Wm." Forsyth to "John" Forsyth at the end of the letter.

Transposition of lines on pages 70 and 71 should be promptly corrected.

On page 81 there is a transposition of the date of birth of Theodore Eckfeldt, as your proofreaders caught.

The book really looks lovely so keep corrections flowing my way.

Sincerely,

*Index completed and enclose. Send proof of it*



April 30, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I am no longer your biggest problem. I will forgive you for accusing me.

I went over the proofs this weekend and there are only a few minor corrections, most of which are your own typesetting mistakes.

There is still going to be a minor change involving George Eckfeldt, who I find was working in the engravers department, as soon as his family tells me what relation he was to the other Eckfeldts. He might have been the young man who peddled the 1858 restrikes. This will not change by more than one line any page which is set up.

Please send me a page form dummy as soon as you can so that I can make up the index and check the location of the pictures, etc.

I am sure that by now you have an enlarged picture of the 1804 missing hair curl although you have never said you have obtained that. It is absolutely fundamental.

I can give you very fast action, as demonstrated by this checking, so please keep the kettle boiling from now on out.

I believe we need an index of illustrations, also. Do you think that should be in the front or the back of the book?

-2-

Mr. Kenneth Bressett

April 30, 1962

Please give me your usual prompt cooperation and tell your typesetter that he did an amazing job in changing all of the footnote numbers.

Williamson needs a page proof for his book review just as soon as we can get it to him.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



May 10, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1210 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

It is necessary to strengthen the section on the Zerbe dollars in view of Kosoff's book; therefore, I am enclosing what I believe is proper to add. As long as this is going to break out in the open again we might as well be reinforced with Bolender's change of opinion and with the fact that Kosoff gives his opinion of an opinion that noone can read. This should not cause your typesetters any real trouble. It is a must.

There is also another tiny addition enclosed.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 11, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I just got a copy of the Kosoff book and  
I do not want to put in all of what I  
wrote yesterday and forwarded to you.  
Hold up for a day on that small addition.

Another reason is I don't want you to get  
in trouble with Kosoff in spite of his  
insulting comments - as if he is God  
Almighty, Junior.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



Please remove the three lines above footnote 177 and substitute the following~~x~~ after filling in the blank space:

1808 (B-6); the points of certain stars on ~~each~~ obverse having been altered in an attempt to make the dies appear to differ from all other dollar obverse dies ~~fixanyxdata~~ regardless of date. The other stars, the bust, the lettering, and the first three numerals of the date, as well as die cracks and die imperfections, correspond identically in the Zerbe pieces and the above named unaltered obverse dies.<sup>177</sup> The only subsequently published doubt as to the alteration status of the Zerbe coins is a fence-straddling position of Abe Kosoff in An Illustrated History of United States Coins ( , 1962), p.11, who finds "reasonable and strong, but not conclusive" an undisclosed opinion of genuineness of an unnamed friend of Farran Zerbe. This is in contrast to the position of M.H. Bolender, whose early U.S. dollar die variety publication is a standard reference. Bolender, who first gave his written opinion that the Zerbe coins were genuine, was very prompt in reversing his opinion in ~~xxxxxx~~ writing on being advised of the evidence showing that the coins were altered.

After the period in the 7th line after footnote 68 insert the following which is guaged to cause only two line to be reset:

Another relative , George Eckfeldt, was the engraving department foreman in 1858.

See  
Subsequent  
Change 9/5/13/60

May 13, 1962

Newman to Bressett: Here is a much more polite and a dignified way of building up Mr. Bolender and slicing up Kosoff. No one will feel hurt. Do not use the similar changes previously sent.

Remove 3 lines above footnote 177 in galley proof and substitute the following:

1803 (B-6); the points of certain stars on each obverse having been ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ realigned by alteration in an attempt to make the dies appear to differ from all other dollar obverse dies regardless of date. The other stars, the bust, the lettering, and the first three numerals of the date, as well as die cracks and die imperfections, correspond identically in the Zerbe pieces and the above ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ mentioned unaltered obverse die ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ varieties.<sup>177</sup> M.H. Bolender, author of the standard reference on early U.S. dollars, promptly agreed with this position on being advised of the evidence, but A. Kosoff in a subsequent publication, entitled An Illustrated History of United States Coins (Encino, Calif., 1962), p. 10, did not wish to take a position on the matter.

After the period in the seventh line after footnote 68 in the galley proof insert the following which should not require more than two lines to be rewritten:

Another relative, George Eckfeldt, was the engraving department foreman in 1858.

Lin.



May 15, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

On May 7 you told me you would send Ray Williamson a copy of the galley proof. I received such a copy, which you mailed on May 7, and wonder whether that is the one to be sent to Ray. Or, did he receive another one? Would you advise me on this point.

Regular first class mail seems to be miserable as the letter you mailed May 7 arrived at my home on May 14 - exactly one week later.

Have you set our little Latin motto in type?

I am looking forward to receiving either the fully corrected galley proof of the page proofs any moment. Please build a fire under yourself.

I am enclosing a letter to Kosoff which you may get a chuckle out of.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

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Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

May 17, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I have your letter of May 15 and wish to inform you that Mr. Bressett is presently out of town on business. He will return in approximately one week, at which time I will bring your letter to his attention.

The galley proof which we sent you on May 7 was for Ray Williamson. We did not know his address so we sent it to you in the hopes that you would forward it on. Sorry if there was any misunderstanding.

Work on the 1804 book will be carried on full speed ahead within the next few days and as soon as other important business matters are taken care of.

Sincerely,

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

Judith A. Mund  
Secretary to Ken Bressett

jam



May 18, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Silent One:

I just received some exceedingly detailed information from the Eckfeldt family and am therefore making the final corrections in the proof with which you are familiar.

Because, on May 13, 1962, I previously corrected one of these items, I have indicated on the enclosed, the full correction, in a manner which I do not believe can be misinterpreted.

Now you have a green light to proceed at full speed.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

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1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

May 24, 1962

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the final corrections for the manuscript. As soon as I clear my desk, I am going to start on this and will be interrupted only by a short trip to Seattle next weekend.

I now have decent photographs of the electrotpe copy of the Mint's plain edge specimen to replace the rather poor photo of the obverse.

I think we should mention the fact that the Hydeman specimen is once again being offered for sale. Its appearance in the Kossoff catalog of Judd's collection confirms our suspicion that this piece never did sell in the Hydeman auction. I have also heard rumors that Wolfson will offer his specimen for sale in the near future. Stack's will handle this coin again.

I am now convinced that there is a hoard of possibly 20 or 30 sets of the 1801-03 proof dollars. We should change our text to read that 12 or more sets were struck.

I spent an evening with Al Hoch discussing his work on the Connecticut cents. I think he has done a nice job assembling these photographs and I hope that he can publish a set of these plates for students' reference. He told me that he did not want to release these photographs until you had done something in the form of a book. However, I am sure it would be helpful for everyone concerned if you give him the green light on publishing just the photos.

Hope you will get in touch with him on the matter.

'sever,

Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam



May 25, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

You have been on vacation, I presume, but at least I heard you gave a talk in up-state New York on the book.

I determined not to send the galley proof to Ray Williamson because it just does not present as nice appearance as it would if it had pictures. Since you are so near page proofs I hope we can send him page proofs.

I look forward to hearing from you momentarily but, in any event, I am glad you had a vacation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 28, 1962

Unfortunately, the middle name of A. Loudon Snowden was misspelled throughout the manuscript. Please correct it by substituting an "o" for an "e" in the following places in the galley proof:

Line 16	after	Footnote No.	68	✓
" 1	before	"	69	✓
" 6	before	"	93	✓
" 4	after	"	94	✓
" 5	before	"	107	✓
" 7	after	"	107	✓
" 9	after	"	107	✓
" 13	after	"	107	✓
" 16	after	"	107	✓
" 2	before	"	110	✓
" 3	after	"	110	✓
" 15	before	"	111	✓
" 4	after	Chapter XIV		✓
" 6	after	Footnote	139	✓
" 2		Chapter XVIII, Section 20		✓

-----

Also change the word "in" to "concerning" in line 1 after Footnote No. 79. ✓

Also change line 8 of Chapter XIV to read:

~~ments~~  
cials state in their affidavits (Full text in Appendix, A, B, and C) that: ✓

Also change the first line before footnote 137 in galley proof to read:  
ments, not feeling able to pay for it all at one time."137 (See Appendix, D) ✓



May 28, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

It was nice talking to you yesterday.

I haven't received Walter's letter but will write immediately on checking it.

In the meantime, I enclose the appendix which should be typeset while you are out of town and a proof sent to me.

I also include a sheet of instructions for other corrections which can be made while you are out of town.

I am deeply concerned about the continual delays in this publication. You state that you want to have it out in July and I don't see how that is possible unless you really go to work on it in earnest. You seem to have sidetracked this for everything else. Please do not neglect it any further.

Don't forget to have the Latin motto at the beginning set up.

Have a pleasant journey out West.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

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1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

May 29, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Thanks for your two latest letters and the latest corrections and copy for the Appendix. I will see that this is set and included with the rest of the manuscript. Let me have your comments on Walter Breen's notes soon so that I can include this with our other corrections.

Enclosed is a photograph of the electrotpe copy of the Mint specimen Class II dollar. This is much better than the other picture and I will substitute it. I am also enclosing a picture of a struck copy of the Clinton cent which I believe is different than anything else that I have seen. Thought you would like to have these photos for your reference collection.

Your references to my "vacations" are not quite accurate. There is a little work involved on these trips also!

'sever,

Ken Bressett

jam

encl.



Additional Galley Proof Corrections  
on suggestions of Walter Breen:

May 30, 1962 based primarily

- ✓ Galley 1 Line 10 of INTRODUCTION Bolender's instead of Bollender's
- ✓ Galley 2 Line 3 of Footnote 3 Paschal instead of Paschel
- ✓ Galley 5 line 1 of footnote 35 Machinist instead of Machinest
- ✓ Galley 5 first line before footnote 36 1771 instead of 1772
- ✓ Galley 6 four lines before footnote 38 toggle instead of togle
- ✓ Galley 7 Remove 4th through 8th line following footnote 46 and substitute the following:

dollars are perfectly flat. If the steel used for dies is not properly carbonized and hardened the dies can become slightly concave in the center portion from use. This is seen in the reverses of the 1793 Liberty Cap cents, the reverses of many 1794 cents, the reverse of the 1804 half cent (Gilbert 1), etc., where ~~resulting in~~ a weak impression in the center portions of the coin results. But no flat hardened steel die can become convex ~~by use~~ from use. The 1804 dollar obverse die produced sharp flat impressions when used to strike Class I and Class II coins and could not become convex in the coining of Class III pieces. Reverse Y on the Class III 1804 dollars is struck sharply and shows no weakness in the center or otherwise. The buckling of the Class III 1804 dollars could not have resulted, therefore, from changes in the dies themselves. The only logical explanation of the buckling or cupping is that the struck coins were rolled along

- ✓ Galley 8 Line 10 of Chap. VI . Add a new sentence at the end of the paragraph:  
A hoard of about twenty more of each of such proof dollars is rumored to be in the hands of a member of the Linderman family.
- ✓ Galley 9 9th line before Chap VII: two instead of several
- ✓ Galley 9 8th line before Chap VII: ,not including instead of as well as
- ✓ Galley 14 10th line after footnote 77 right instead of left
- ✓ Galley 14 11th line after footnote 77 left instead of right
- ✓ Galley 18 line 3 of Chap XII James instead of John
- ✓ Galley 18 Between the 8th and 9th line before footnote 108 add the following new paragraph:

It should be noted that in the dates of the half cent dies in the foregoing May 18, 1867 schedule the die dated 1851 was apparently a misreading of 1831. Also the half cent die dated 1852 is repeated and the dates 1841, 1843, and 1845 are not in the group.

- Director            instead of            Directory

✓ Galley 22 ~~XX~~  
Add at the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> line ahead of footnote 140 after  
removing periodthe following:  
  
(Full text in Appendix,D).



May 31, 1962

Miss Judith A. Mund (and eventually Ken)  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Miss Mund:

Since Ken is away I am writing you so you will get action and then let Ken see the letter.

Please send my mail to my office as it gets there quicker.

The copy you sent of Walter's letter was almost unreadable. Please send me the original and I will make copies and return it if you can't do a fine job of it there. I know how weak his typewriter is. We are lucky he wrote at all and it is a relief to hear from him in a calm way.

I have included most of his suggestions in the enclosed corrections and added a few others. I omitted his suggestions on the Stickney Pine Tree coins as it is fallacious. Concealment of other dies is too irrelevant. The Immune Columbia matter is too complex to explain, but it should remain as is.

I do not think it wise to indicate that the Hydeman specimen will be offered for sale again. This is not documented, only an inference. What Wolfson does is speculation also.

The hoard of proof dollars has been inserted as Ken suggested. I have heard this rumor several times with little verification possible.

Please keep pestering him to complete the page proofs as soon as the corrections are allmade.

Thanks for your continued help and cooperation on this project.

Sincerely yours,



June 7, 1962      Final final post final corrections.

In the changes dated May 28, 1962 I misspelled the word affidavits

✓ Galley 14      13th line before footnote 80  
                 Substitute                  Robbins                  for                  Robbins

✓ Galley 17      beginning at 5th line after footnote 94 to end of paragraph  
                 substitute the following: (This cancels a prior correction)

sale, Mason specifically names Eckfeldt. A young Eckfeldt, accompanied by a friend, was also accused by W. Elliot Woodward of selling rare patterns during the same period.<sup>95</sup> According to the A. Loudon Snowden interview quoted above, George J. Eckfeldt who had been in the employ of the Mint since 1830 and who was foreman in the Engraving Department in 1858 is ~~therefore~~ the man behind the 1858 ~~xxxx~~ restriking. The "erring son" (assuming the scorekeeper should not charge the father with the error) must have been Theodore Eckfeldt (18aa-18bb) because the other son, John M. Eckfeldt (1831-1874), had been in California since 1854 as Chief Coiner of the San Francisco Mint.

✓ Move footnote 95 to its new position in view of the above change.

✓ Galley 17      remove last line (see substituted text below)

✓ Galley 18      remove first two lines of text and substitute the following:

he intended to involve Director James R. Snowden as a participant in the restriking project.. Chapman also inflated the prices which had been paid for the plain edge 1804 dollars from \$75 to \$200 each. His 1913 comments must therefore be considered of no reliability.

Galley 18      In the paragraph beginning "The document refers to \*\*" make the following changes:

✓                  second line                  substitute:                  should                  for                  would  
                 sixth line to end of paragraph      substitute the following:

✓                  strued as Director Linderman's admission that the die for the 1804 dollar (first on the list) should be classed as experimental rather than ~~xxxxxx~~ an old remaining production die. As heretofore shown, it cannot even be classified as experimental because it is antedated and does not relate to future Mint production. Referring to the 1804 dollar die as experimental appears to be more of an excuse for its existence.

Galley 26      Reset Section 22 as follows:

✓                  22. The 1804 eagle without a crosslet on the 4 is struck from dies cut about the same time and under circumstances similar to those under which the 1804 dollar dies and the proof 1801, 1802, and 1803 dollar dies were cut.

June 10, 1962

Galley 24 Remove 3rd and 4th line after footnote 179 and substitute the following:

✓ were also made by the Mint of the Class II 1804 dollar in its collection (See illustration), ~~being described as a pattern~~ the electrotpe first being described as a pattern (A-1 26) but subsequently being delisted by Judd as a false piece made by DuBois.



Galley 10

3rd line before footnote 56

substitute Some for The ✓

1st line before footnote 56

substitute ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~for ✓

~~the~~ a screw press for the screw presses

1st line after footnote 56

~~substitute~~ revise to read

for dollars may not have ~~been used~~ *been used before* ✓

ST. LOUIS, MO.

B. G. JOHNSON

ST. LOUIS STAMP & COIN CO.

June 12, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

In preparing the list of those to whom our book should be sent, please let me know whether your company sends out free copies to libraries and individuals who helped, and your and my relatives, or whether that should be done by the individuals.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



MEMORANDUM June 15, 1962

To FROM

Theodore W. Eckfeldt, whose date of birth and death I left blank in my previous additions, can now be provided.

Please place after his name: (1837-1893).

This would make him 21 years old during the 1858 episode - which is just right.

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

~~TABLE OF~~ ILLUSTRATIONS

Frontispiece	<del>the 1804 dollar</del>	3
Edge lettering on early <sup>U.S.</sup> dollars		27
Schematic drawing of Castaing edge lettering machine		28
<del>1771 engraving of Castaing</del> <del>edge lettering machine</del>		29
<del>Enlargement of date on</del> <del>Enlarged date of</del> 1804 half eagle		30
Diagram showing relationship of planchet, dies and collar		32
<del>Enlargement of</del> 1804 Class I dollar		36
<del>Enlargement of</del> 1804 Class II dollar		37
<del>1804 dollar dies with other dies</del> Mating of <del>dies of 1801, 1802, 1803, 1804 proof dollars</del>		38
Enlargement of date on 1804 dollar		39
Regular 1804 <del>U.S.</del> eagle		39
Regular 1804 <del>U.S.</del> half eagle		39
<del>1805 over 1804</del> <del>1804 over 5 half dollars (Beistle 1-A)</del>		40
<del>1804 over 5 half dollar (Beistle 2-C)</del>		<del>40</del>
Enlargement of date on <sup>1805</sup> <del>1804</del> over <sup>1804</sup> <del>5</del> half dollar		40
Proof eagle <sup>antedated</sup> antedated 1804		41
<del>Double struck</del> <del>Enlargement showing double striking on</del> Class III 1804 dollar		44
<del>Enlargement showing</del> <sup>on reverse of</sup> Rust spots <del>at star</del> 1804 dollar		44
<del>Enlargement of</del> Dates on regular and proof dollars dated 1801		46
<del>Enlargement of</del> Dates on regular and proof dollars dated 1802		47
Dent below ribbon on 1801 and 1803 proof dollars		48
Proof dollars dated 1801, 1802 and 1803		49
<del>Details of</del> Rust spots at star on 1803 proof dollar		50



<del>Enlargement of</del> 1838 pattern dollar by Gobrecht .....	53
Missing curl tip on 1804 dollar .....	54
Missing curl tip on 1801 proof dollar .....	55
Pointed curl tip on 1802 proof dollar .....	55
Mating of dies of <sup>collar struck</sup> 1833, 1834 <sup>and</sup> 1835 <del>and 1836</del> half dollars ..	59
Double impression <sup>of edge lettering</sup> on <del>1801</del> 1801, 1802, 1803 and 1804 dollars .....	60
<i>Comparison of Bern</i> <del>Details of overstruck Swiss shooting Thaler and</del> 1804 Class II dollar <i>overstruck</i> .....	76-77
Dollar with date altered to 1804 <del>by F. A. DeLan</del> .....	103
Electrotype of <sup>Class II</sup> 1804 dollar, <del>Class II</del> .....	107
Half dollar with date altered to 1804 .....	109
<i>Individual 1804 dollars:</i> U. S. Mint specimen (Class I) .....	118
Stickney specimen (Class I) .....	119
Cohen specimen (Class I) .....	120
Mickley specimen (Class I) .....	122
Parmelee specimen (Class I) .....	123
Dexter specimen (Class I) .....	124
Watters specimen (Class I) .....	126
U. S. Mint specimen (Class II) .....	128
Berg specimen (Class III) .....	129
Adams specimen (Class III) .....	130
Davis specimen (Class III) .....	132
Linderman specimen (Class III) .....	134
Rosenthal specimen (Class III) .....	136
Idler specimen (Class III) .....	137



June 20, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I just returned home and will begin on the Index promptly. I am enclosing a corrected draft of the index of illustrations. Can you have this set?

Please have the corrections made in the galley proofs including the following additional one:

In the galley proof covering titles for the pictures, please change the date "1772" to "1771".

In the Pedigree section, under Lamot DuPont please capitalize the "P" in the ownership list, in the one place where it is not capitalized.

I saw Stefanelli, in New York, as well as Walter Breen, John Ford, and the gang at ANS.

Breen says you have a copy of the 1952 picture of the 1805 dollar. Is that true?

Dick Johnson was in New York but I did not see him. I am surprised that Amos has made himself Editor of the Coin World and attempted to justify it.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

June 22, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken,

Please correct the following additional spelling errors.

The middle name of W. Elliot Woodward is spelled with "tt" instead of "t" in two places ---

✓ The first line after footnote 113 and

✓ The sixth line before footnote 182.

✓ Four lines before footnote 146, change "Lillienthal" to "Lilliendahl".

✓ In galley 14, ten lines before footnote 76, the name "Wm.Forsyth" should be "John Forsyth".

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

June 22, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

You have no idea how much I am handicapped by not having a corrected galley proof. It is making the indexing especially difficult and making it even more difficult to find other corrections which should be found at this time. Frankly, I do not know why I cannot have your cooperation on this matter. You promised me last weekend that all the corrections would be made and there is nothing more irritating than to work on uncorrected material when one's concentration should be on finding additional errors.

If a new set of galley proofs is already in the mail I will be delighted to eat my words. If not, please get me a corrected galley proof as fast as you can as the way it stands I have to exhaust myself trying to check it out.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

P.S. I cannot prepare an index to cover the appendix without the appendix being set in type so how about getting me the appendix in galley and page proof form?

P.P.S. The index I am making is only an index of names. Do you think I should index the coins mentioned by date?

EPN/atb



Saturday June 23, 1962. This addition is so important it must be added. It will only shift a little material from page 25 to page 26 where there is room.

Galley 4 Change the line in front of footnote 27 to read:  
typhoon. Walter Winchell even repeated this myth.<sup>27</sup>

Change the last line of footnote 27 to read:

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
Encyclopaedia (Phila., 1883), p. 4; The Numismatist, Vol. 50, No. 9 (Sept., 1937), p. 833.

~~XXXXXX~~ existing footnote 28 to read as follows:

28 "Will Remain Forever in Chicago", The Numismatist, Vol. 18, No. 2 (Feb. 1905), p. 52.

Insert the following text between footnotes 27 and 28:

A weird variation of this rumor asserts that a Huguenot employee at the Mint in 1804 noticed a resemblance between the portrait on the "1804" dollar~~XXX~~ and Martha Washington, causing the ~~NUMXX~~ Huguenots in United States to cry out against the use of the wife of a president for such a purpose. As a result the "1804" dollars were not distributed but were shipped to Hong Kong and lost at sea.<sup>28</sup> The fact that dollars dated between 1795 and 1803 contained the identical portrait was apparently unknown to this story-teller.

June 24, 1962

Galley 17

Footnote 95 should be changed to read as follows:

HBK

- 95 W. Elliot Woodward's Catalogue of the Sale of the Homan Ely collection on January 8, 1884, Lot 561, and of the Sale of the Ferguson Haines collection on October 13, 1880, Lot 921.

( Dear typesetter: Homan is correct. It is not Herman.. )  
These Goods Are Sent on Consignment and Approval and the Title in the Consignor Does Not Pass Until They Are Paid For

June 25, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

The index is finished with the exception of the items to be added from the appendix and corrections. There are 6-1/4 pages, more or less, like the enclosed copy.

(Newman)  
I also enclose one additional correction to be made to a footnote.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



June 26, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

The page proofs arrived and I will work on them tonight.

I must insist that the balance of corrections be made and forwarded to me as promptly as possible.

Your particular attention is called to the fact that the List of Illustrations is in miserable condition. I do not understand why you hesitate to change them. I went to the trouble to correct them and it would be so easy to set all of my corrections except indenting the individual list of coins.

The 1804 over 5 Half Dollars is an error in three places.

It is wrong to refer to an 1804 proof dollar.

The mating of dies of the half dollars of 1833 through 1836 is wrong as this only covers special ones.

Call me an eccentric, but change the List of Illustrations.

In the Table of Contents the list of illustrations should be on page 10 and not page 10-11.

Please keep the corrected pages pouring my way.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

June 26, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

The page proofs arrived and I will work on them tonight.

I must insist that the balance of corrections be made and forwarded to me as promptly as possible.

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The mating of dies of the half dollars of 1833 through 1836 is wrong as this only covers special ones.

Call me an eccentric, but change the List of Illustrations.

In the Table of Contents the list of illustrations should be on page 10 and not page 10-11.

Please keep the corrected pages pouring my way.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



June 29, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I made a quick review of the page proofs you forwarded and am giving you my comments forthwith.

You asked that Castaing be identified as a man and not a misspelling. I call your attention to page 29 where I stated that he was a French engineer.

You asked for a copy of the suggested publicity memo which I had prepared for Life Magazine and a copy is enclosed.

I believe the story about Grandberg's 1804 Dollar being found by a Pinkerton detective on the washed up body of a sailor belongs in the book for humor following the comments on pages 105 and 106 with respect to the coin. Be careful in shifting the text and the footnotes on to other pages.

In footnote No. 180 and on page 132 you can check up on whether the name is "Colvin" or "Calvin" as the middle name of Randall.

In Appendix A, B, and C, you are right that the lines should be removed as these look ugly and are silly.

On page 108 you should make an addition, which you discovered, by substituting a comma for the period at the end of the ~~last~~ sentence and adding:

4/6/6 ✓  
"and another with a pretense of genuineness in the issue of \_\_\_\_\_."

The date to be filled in you can find very easily as this was the coin which Dantone had and you wrote him about it. I think it is important to mention that incident.



Page 2

June 29, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett

On page 117 there is a mistake in grammar in the title. The word "DOLLARS" should be "DOLLAR".

On page 97 you will note the comments about Linderman, but, unfortunately, there is an error. The 6th, 7th, and 8th lines should be rewritten as follows:

is not without "interest." His May 18, 1867, notation (see Chap.XII) showed

that he had charge of many dies including the 1804 dollar and his collec-

tion had many restrikes and patterns from those dies, such as half cents dated

I sincerely hope I've done enough damage.

I'm returning the 1805 Silver Dollar item, herewith.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

July 17, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

Naturally, I am disappointed at the continuing delays, but there is very little checking which I can do with the paste up which arrived. I have mailed my most recent page proof to Ray Williamson to write the review. Why I could never get another copy of the page proof to send to him I will never understand. Handicapped as I may be I will do my best to check the book for ridiculous errors. I don't expect to find any but will begin immediately.

I do not plan to be at the A.N.A. so you can be threatened instead of me.

I certainly hope that you have been able to obtain the stock for the cover. That should not have held you up as I presume the book has not even been printed yet.

However, please ask your Hannibal plant to send me a set of the printed sheets as soon as they are finished. I don't care in what form they are.

I would certainly like to see some copies available for sale at the St. Louis Coin Festival as that looks as though it will be rather well attended. It will be held August 11 and 12 and if someone could have a few for sale it would start the enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

WHITMAN  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY



Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

July 13, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Our work on the 1804 dollar book is just about completed. Under separate cover I am sending you a final set of proofs and as many of the photographs as I have. Unfortunately, I do not have a full set of the photographs left for this dummy.

Please check it over and see if everything meets with your approval. Return it to me as soon as convenient, as I will need this dummy for reference during the next few weeks.

We have been held up due to an inability to obtain the cover stock. The tentative schedule calls for the books to be ready by August 17. If all goes well, I will have a few copies finished prior to that date and ready for showing at the A.N.A. Convention.

Sincerely,

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor

KEB:jam



July 18, 1962

Mr. Raymond H. Williamson  
930 Rothowood Road  
Lynchburg, Virginia

Dear Ray:

I enjoyed, so much, talking to you, and appreciate the fact that you will have the review in my hands in about one week. I will have it reproduced, as you suggested, and forward it to Whitman Publishing Company.

A photocopy of the Index is enclosed and I hope that it meets your standards in combination with the Table of Contents and the List of Illustrations, revised copies of which are also enclosed.

I will have Whitman Publishing Company insert the price of the book in your review, as you requested.

If you can return the page proofs to me, I would appreciate it as I have no copy of the page proofs on hand.

Thank you for all you are doing for numismatics.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

CC: Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company

EPN/atb

July 25, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bresett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I am enclosing a list of those who should receive a complimentary copy of the book, but I have omitted those in St. Louis to whom I could give the book personally. There are eighteen in St. Louis on my list. You were going to send me 4 dozen, and therefore, you should increase that to 6 dozen.

Do you think that we ought to insert a little printed slip with the compliments of the authors, or do you think we should write a joint letter to some parties indicating that under separate cover we are sending the book with our compliments?

You will, of course, have many more to add to this list, but I wanted you to have my list promptly so that you could work with it.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:ak

encl.

July 27, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I have Ray Williamson's review, a copy of which is enclosed and which has certain insignificant changes which I have made.

He wants to insert the price of the book, which you will do, and he wants to correct the word "cloth" to the proper term. I suggest "vinyl hard cover" as "vinyl" may be just a flapping cover. Will you please make these corrections, additions, and also advise me whether you have any other suggestions. We must clear any additional changes to the review.

Ray has found two bad errors, which you may have corrected but according to my notes you have not, and a lot of little ones which we will correct for the 63rd edition.

The important error is on page 81, line 7. The figure "III" was omitted after the word "Class". I imagine you can easily reset the type, make a new page and a new picture for this sheet.

The messup error is on page 120, where an entire sentence is wrong which repeats "H.G. Sampson obtained it from Parmelee of Boston for \$500.00". This should be stricken out. I am sure you will want to make this change as it is a very substantial error.

I do not expect the book to be perfect but certainly these two errors can be corrected.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb



July 28, 1962

Dear Ken:

Look at the Numismatist for August, 1962 p.1034. The subject of the ANA talk by David Spink is "New Facts about an old U.S. Coin". Could this possibly be the 1804 Zerbe dollar. Spinks had all the old correspondence, in 1939 with B.G. Johnson and with the senders of the coin to London. Please ask Smedley if he knows what it is or perhaps you know already. The title is in the singular and that should indicate that the 1805 dollar is not under consideration, but who knows. Advise me immediately, dear sleuth.

The Fuld book arrived and I thank you. The delay was our mail carrier who brings books when he feels like it. Incidentally when the Judd second edition is ready I would like to have it.

Hope you had a wonderful vacation and that your wife is better.

Now hear this! Don Taxay has sent me his manuscript on chicanery and faking at the mint and otherwise. It is fantastic and a great piece of literature to be. It reeks of all the material that John Ford has been assembling over the years. The section on the 1804 dollar copies and repeats endless material ~~xx~~ which he got from the <sup>galley</sup> proofs which I showed Ford. Ford asked me to let him see them so Taxay could read them and I am afraid they were photocopied. There is some material we don't have but all the arguments and logic are straight from us. The galley proofs of this opus are already made. Sterling Publishing Co is doing it, I think and Taxay is going to India the middle of August for a year and expects to get this thing out. There are no pictures that I know of. I am going to write him that he is repeating too much of our material and that will make him look silly in the readers mind. Maybe he will not get the thing out before he goes away but anything is possible. I don't think he is even giving it to Ford to publish. Breen has obviously helped him gather facts too. I think that they are all trying to get poor Taxay to write the thing so he will be criticized for exposing so much and not those who are really doing it. It even suggests seizure by the U.S. govt of the 1804 dollars, the 1913 nickels and other coins. It looks like spite or devilment de luxe, but it is a great book and is filled with exciting exposures. He has asked me whether it is libelous and I am going to tell him that he is taking a terrible chance.

I will be out of town Monday but you better call me Tuesday to advise me what to do, if you have suggestions. I will not write him until Tuesday evening. If I do not hear from you I will assume you want to let the book take its course.

Never a dull second.

Best regards,

W H I T M A N  
P U B L I S H I N G  
C O M P A N Y



*Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.*

1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

August 7, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I have received and digested all of the many letters which you have sent to me within the past two weeks. The correspondence between you and Don Taxay is very interesting. I am glad to know that he will take your advice and edit the section of his book on the 1804 dollar.

I am returning Williamson's review. You will note I have made only minor suggestions for changes. If he wants to divulge the outcome of the book in his review, I believe that is his prerogative. I feel we should eliminate even the slightest hint that this book could depress the market price of this coin. We did not set out to do that and I do not believe the book will have that effect. It should not even be mentioned.

The corrections that you mentioned on page 81 and page 120 have been taken care of. I also found a few other minor typographical errors when I read the final proofs from Hannibal. They really mixed up the photographs on me and I had to make extensive corrections along this line. I believe that everything is in good order now and the book will go to press August 13, 14 and 15. The covers are completed and I am sending you a sample. At least a portion of the books should be finished by August 17, and we will probably have them for distribution by August 24. If it is at all possible, I will try to get a few copies for publicity at the ANA convention. It will be impossible to have any completed books for you by the 11th.

-2-

Enclosed is a sample of the ad which will appear in all of the leading coin publications during the next two months. Everything has been taken care of along these lines and you may rest assured that we will get plenty of publicity. There are over forty newspaper columnists who also review our products.

'sever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ken Bressett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam

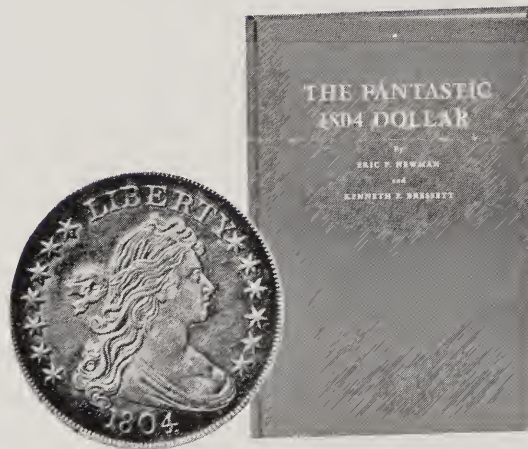
encl.



# The Fantastic 1804 Dollar

by

Eric P. Newman and Kenneth E. Bressett



An exhaustive study of the 1804 dollar is now presented for the first time in this unique book. Every piece of information ever recorded about the "king of American coins" is cited, discussed and analyzed in this truly fantastic story.

In a very enjoyable style the authors try, not to implant their opinions, but to present all known facts and startling new discoveries, outline modern methods of numismatic investigation, and allow the reader to draw his own conclusions.

This thoroughly illustrated book has an attractive library binding with 144 pages printed on highest quality paper.

**\$3.50** at your coin dealer

**WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY, Racine, Wis.  
WORLD'S LEADING NUMISMATIC PUBLISHERS**



"The Fantastic 1804 Dollar" by Eric P. Newman and Kenneth E. Bressett. Associates in Research: Walter E. Breen and Lynn Glaser. Copyrighted 1962, published and sold at \$3.50 by Whitman Publishing Co., Racine Wisconsin. Library of Congress 92-19453. Cloth, 144 pp., Index of Names, and <sup>over 50</sup> ~~47~~ illustrations. *Vinyl coated board cover.*

This definitive "1804 Dollar Book" is the acknowledged product of the research efforts of a four-man team of seasoned numismatists and scholars in the field of United States coinage. Each man had worked independently on the subject on and off for many years. Vigorous collaboration began in 1960. The text was written by Newman, while the substantial efforts of Bressett yielded the pedigrees and illustrations of each of the 13 known specimens. The authors cite the cooperation of some 49 people and seven institutions; they also refer with scholarly precision to some hundreds of literature sources. Yet the book is easy for even the neophyte to read -- in fact it is breezy at times.

While most collectors of United States coins can never afford ownership of a U. S. silver dollar dated 1804, they will find rewarding material on every page of this book. They will be stimulated not only by the detective work on the 1804 dollar, but also by mint history, law, the mechanics of coinage, rumor mongering, dealers' practices, fraud, concealment by officials, historical research, and the revelations of early numismatic books. Enlightening to many will be the schematic diagram of the old-style Castaing machine used in the first U. S. Mint for lettering and upsetting the edges of coins. Apparently no such machine has survived -- not even a picture of one.

A couple of important lessons for future numismatic authors

are built into this book: First, it is vital that today's writer challenge the printed word when it can be deduced that the original author's motive was to conceal or to create interesting fiction rather than to communicate truth; and second, it is entirely possible to piece together with confidence a jigsaw puzzle of facts from partially sound and partially speculative source material -- with care and patience and a tight rein on the purely imaginative; the precise shape of a few missing pieces can be established with excellent probability.

It would be most difficult to exaggerate the thousands of man-hours required to research this complex, controversial, frustrating subject. While a few facets of the story can never be determined absolutely, the authors arrive at 23 definite conclusions near the end of the text. The twenty-third conclusion, while not as beautiful as the twenty-third Psalm, has a common theme making both suitable for reading at funerals:

23. There are no genuine 1804 dollars and those struck from mint-made dies which bear that date are ante-dated fantasies.

The "King of American coins" is an imposter.

All but the most utterly irreconcilable will be firmly convinced <sup>by the authors' conclusions.</sup> ~~just as~~ ~~with the publication of this book is more likely to~~  
~~as~~  
~~enhance/lead to depress the market-place valuation of collectors'~~  
~~pieces.~~ The United States silver dollar dated 1804 still is  
the "King of American coins;" <sup>out</sup> through history, few kings acted  
less kingly because they were illegitimate.



August 8, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

At the end of the review please add the words "or usurpers". This makes a little more sense.

In the text of your advertising material, please add a comma after the word "discussed". Please remove a comma after the word "try". Capitalize the word "King".

I am sure there will be no problem with Williamson but have forwarded the changed review to him for final approval.

Glad you are making good progress and I am relying on you with respect to the placement of the photographs and their description.

Don Taxay is now asking me to write an introduction to his book and he is taking out everything he copied from the 1804 dollar book. There is also lots more scuttlebutt on the matter, as you can guess.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

August 10, 1962

Dear Ken,

The cover is beautiful but  
as you know the spine is not  
printed as it should be. Thanks  
for sending it.

Sincerely

*From the desk of*  
ERIC P. NEWMAN

# WESTERN PRINTING & LITHOGRAPHING CO.

ROUTE 61 AT PARIS ROAD, HANNIBAL, MO.

1302

## SHIPPING ORDER

SHIP TO:

MR. ERIC P. NEWMAN  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Missouri

DATE August 16, 1962

JOB NO. 7926

CUSTOMER ORDER NO.

CUSTOMER

SHIP VIA

1st Class Special Delivery

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT
	<p>2 Copies - 1804, Fantastic Dollar</p> <p><i>1 kg.</i></p> <p>SHIP- August 16, 1962</p> <p>DELIVER- <i>Murray</i></p>	

PACKING SLIP



Cleveland, Ohio  
Aug. 17, 1962  
5 AM

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Co  
1220 Mound St.  
Racine, Wisc.

Dear Ken:

Thank you for the telephone call reporting the highlights of the talk of Dave Spink at the ANA Convention. I apologize for calling you at 3AM insisting that the "Fantastic" book not be completed or released in its present form. I think it is very lucky that the book is not distributed. A needle in a hay stack has been found. You knew of the subject of the speech but your lips were sealed. I did not know the subject but I tried to find out.

I know that you realize that if the book is released now it will reflect terribly on the reputation of Whitman, you personally, The EPN Num. Ed. Soc. and myself. It may even be libelous to publish erroneous material. Knowing it to be inaccurate in major respects is not justifiable. Errata inserts in my opinion are out of the question and a sure way to get poor reviews and comments and not to sell the book.

The Book must be revised. Most chapters are perfectly OK. It will sell very much better with the impact of Spink's material. Now it is really timely whereas up to now it had to a degree lost its punch. Raise the price if you wish. Your firm can make more money out of it if corrected than if it had already been published.

Meet me in St. Louis, Louis next weekend and by then I will have revisions to go over with you. Pages can be added as 12A 12B 12C 12D etc where needed if you wish to avoid remaking certain plates. Find out all about what pages are in what binding group/. Please send me the text of the talk, get the pictures and we will come out of this smelling like a rose. I will bless Whitman for its past delays instead of needling them or did you have a premonition. I didn't sleep a wink after you called but now I have a smile of contentment on my face as I sing (slightly out of tune) "There'll be some changes made". Luck is really with us. Tell me how to Hail Mary and I will do it with you every hour on the hour.

Your coauthor thru thick & thin,

  
Eric P. Newman

cc: to KB at  
Sheraton Cadillac Hotel  
Detroit, Michigan



Cleveland, Ohio  
Aug. 17, 1962  
5 AM

Mr. Monnoch Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Co  
1220 Round St.  
Racine, Wisc.

Dear Mon:

Thank you for the telephone call reporting the highlights of the talk of Dave Spink at the AMA Convention. I apologize for calling you at 3AM insisting that the "Fantastic" book not be completed or released in its present form. I think it is very lucky that the book is not distributed. A needle in a hay stack has been found. You know of the subject of the speech but your lips were sealed. I did not know the subject but I tried to find out.

I know that you realize that if the book is released now it will reflect terribly on the reputation of Whitman, you personally, The EPN Num. Ed. Soc. and myself. It may even be libelous to publish erroneous material. Knowing it to be inaccurate in major respects is not justifiable. Errata inserts in my opinion are out of the question and a sure way to get poor reviews and comments and not to sell the book.

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Meet me in St. Louis, Louis next weekend and by then I will have revisions to go over with you. Pages can be added as 12A 12B 12C 12D etc where needed if you wish to avoid removing certain plates. Find out all about what pages are in what binding group/. Please send me the text of the talk, get the pictures and we will come out of this smelling like a rose. I will bless Whitman for its past delays instead of needling them or did you have a premonition. I didn't sleep a wink after you called but now I have a smile of contentment on my face as I sing (slightly out of tune) "There'll be some changes made". Luck is really with us. Tell me how to Hail Mary and I will do it with you every hour on the hour.

Your coauthor thru thick & thin,

  
Eric P. Newman

cc: to MB at  
Sheraton Cadillac Hotel  
Detroit, Michigan

August 20, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I am returning the David Spink speech, having made a copy. I have had a photograph made of the picture and would like to know whether this is to be sent to Coin World or back to you.

If you have not already done so, please send several sets of unbound pages so that I can rework them.

Please note that the lines in the book are wavy and tilted as it appears that the frames were not locked in the time the proofs were taken. It makes you dizzy to read it.

Please let me know when David Spink is returning to England as I may be in London to examine the coins.

John Ford telephoned me he was so mad... I calmed him down, I hope.

Such a mess to rewrite.

I would appreciate you reading the entire book for places to correct.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb



Later on Aug 26, 1962

Dear Ken:

It was hectic but a pleasure to have you here for the changes to the Fantastic. I am glad we saved 35 pages out of the 144 .

If your typesetters throw a linotype machine at you, catch it and make the changes yourself.

I have a change:

On page 92 you need space to put in corrected footnotes, so on line 11 put a period after the word "likely" AND strike out the balance of the sentence.

Now that you have done that here is an addition to footnote

101 : (Extra copy of footnote addition enclosed)

Change final period to semi-colon and add:

"C. ...", "Gold in America", Harper's New Monthly Magazine, Vol. 20  
(Mar., 1960), p. 47.

Please be sure to change the review to cover the addition to the 23rd psalm.

I hope the presses in Hannibal have recovered. They knew more than we did/. As we say in Thai

Wa Ta Na Siam

W H I T M A N  
P U B L I S H I N G  
C O M P A N Y



Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.

1 2 2 0 M O U N D A V E N U E • R A C I N E , W I S C O N S I N

August 30, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
Edison Brothers Stores  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Work is going along nicely on the 1804 corrections. I should have proofs in the mail which you will receive Saturday at home. I hope that you will be able to complete the index and return the proofs, the original changes and the new index so that I can have them early next week.

All the arrangements have been made to go to press with this book as soon as the changes are completed. I have a beautiful picture of the obverse and reverse of the 1804 dollar and a somewhat better picture of the case. I am going to try to get the original print that appeared in Coin World.

David Spink has given me brief notes to be used in the pedigree section. He did not disclose when or where the set first appeared or what has now become of it.

John Ford sent me a nice letter of apology and everything is smoothed over. Walter Breen has not sent any notes or corrections for the book, so I guess he is satisfied with it. I have written to the Smithsonian and to Dr. Judd for additional information about the 1804 eagle in gold. If all goes well, we may have completed books by September 13.

Be sure to keep me posted on your vacation addresses so that I can forward books to you when they are ready.

'sever,

Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam





WHITMAN  
PUBLISHING  
COMPANY



*Subsidiary of Western Publishing Company, Inc.*

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN

September 4, 1962

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
Edison Brothers Stores  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 4, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Your changes arrived Tuesday morning and the type is being corrected at this very minute. I expect that everything will be in good shape by this weekend and I will send everything off to Hannibal by Friday. With a little luck, we will go to press on or before the 14th of September. Sorry that it will not be in time for you to see any of the completed books.

Your suggested changes were all in good order and corresponded to corrections I had picked out when reading a set of proofs this weekend. I will let you know if I get the weight of the 1804 proof eagle from Risk or Spink.

I am afraid it would be impractical to print an insert page to go into the book just for autographing purposes. I am sure we will be able to work something out to satisfy the needs of autograph collectors after you return.

'sever,

Ken Bressett  
Numismatic Editor  
WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

KEB:jam

P. S. Just had a telegram from Risk stating he cannot furnish the weight of the 1804 proof eagle. Perhaps Spink will send it.

WESTERN UNION  
TELEGRAM  
1

WHEATH PD

NEW YORK NY SEPT 7 245P EDT 1962

WHEATH E WHEATH

WHITMAN PUBLISHING CO

EAGLE WEIGHED EXACTLY TWO SEVEN ZERO AND ONE HALF GRAINS

JAMES C RISH COIN GALLERIES 125 WEST 37 ST

NEW YORK 19 NEW YORK

345PMC

132 37 19

Memo From —

KEN BRESSETT

Sept. 7, 1962

Enc —

This is the weight of Stacks proof 1804 Eagle.  
It is on the old, pre June 28, 1834 standard —  
just as we suspected.

Corrections to the book are all finished and  
sent to Hannibal. Everything is in good  
order. I had to kill the last 3½ lines  
of new copy that you added to page 70, to  
have room enough for the photo of the coins.

They will go to press September 17 and I  
will be in Hannibal to see that everything  
goes the way we want it.

Best wishes and have a nice vacation.

Ken



October 15, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I returned to the office today, after seeing the coins, in London. I appreciate you sending me copies of the book there and to St. Louis.

There is enclosed a copy of my answer to Jim Risk.

I will give you a report, in a few days, of what I learned (which was not much) and I sincerely appreciate all the hard work which I know you put in to getting the book out.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

October 29, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I received your letter of October 26 and was glad to hear from you. I am very anxious to know if the book is selling. Please tell me about how many you have sold so as to cheer me up.

I do not understand what you mean when you say "research of the book has been very good" but Mrs. Barrett tells me, in Gregg shorthand, "reception" could be misread for "research". Where is the publicity and advertising? I saw a mention in the New York Times.

The 1804 Eagle in the Siam Set shows no wire rim so we will have to correct this item, too, on re-printing, if ever. I am only amazed that more mistakes were not made in Chapters 8 and 9.

I am sending to Europe to obtain a copy of the Adolph Weyl catalogue.

The reason the 1834 Half Eagle without motto is not in the set is that it would have upset the balance. No one was interested in Technical numismatic differences. The only reason the additional Quarter Eagle was added was because it was needed to balance, otherwise it would have been omitted.

I have not received my photo of the cover of the box from Spink but assume it will be forthcoming.

I certainly hope the book sells, for your company's sake, as I know they put some real money into it.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

October 31, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I now see that your advertising is really extensive. Letters from interested readers are now coming in. Do you want a list of their comments for further publicity? I haven't seen Williamson's review published anywhere.

The book was mentioned in the New York Times International Edition which was sent to me from Amsterdam.

Glad to note you are giving another speech.

Please send Blue Book at your convenience.

Kresge's, here, have Whitman books and coins for sale in a Berg merchandise rotater.  
Wow!

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



November 5, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

I am enclosing a group of comments about "The Fantastic" and thought you might want to use them in publicity without mentioning names. I merely put the names on to show you they were legitimate. You, no doubt, have additional comments. It might make an excellent ad. The names cannot be used because permission was not received for that purpose and the words are lifted from context.

I think it would be wonderful if your binding department would stamp some labels for the spine of the book to paste on to a few copies. It does not have to be in the same colored material although I have pieces of that material if you do not. It can be in some other blending color and need not cover the full spine. Could you make a few?

I am very pleased with the way the book is selling.

I thought the review that Bradfield gave us was at the end of the line and I am hopeful that they will publish Ray Williamson's.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



November 5, 1962

It will surely rank as a masterpiece of scholarly research. (Spink)

A magnificent production which covers this intensely interesting subject just about as fully as anyone could possibly do it. (Spink)

Fantastic and fascinating. (K.Scott)

The ability and perseverance for details. (Eckfeldt)

"An exceedingly readable but thoroughly scholarly book". (N.Y.Times)

"The book was fabulous". (Fuld)

The subject is treated in a clear comprehensive manner. (Gilroy Roberts)

A great contribution to numismatics. (S.W.Freeman)



November 28, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

In order to keep Williamson from blowing his top, I think it would be wise for you to submit his review of "The Fantastic" to the Coin World for publication, otherwise it may not be published anywhere.

I have not heard from you on the attempted publicity here in St. Louis but assume that will be coming any moment.

I notice Risk has produced an article on the 1804 situation which is not the same as the speech. This is like the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



December 17, 1962

Mr. Kenneth Bressett  
Whitman Publishing Company  
1220 Mound Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Ken:

Williamson called me up and asked me if he did something wrong in the review of "The Fantastic". I told him that I had already written you to submit the review to the Coin World and the Numismatist chose to write its own review. Would you please follow up and see what can be done to get his review published by Numismatic News perhaps as well as Coin World if you have not already done so.

I note that Spink expects me to write about his box but at the present moment the only additional points I could make would be the weight of the 1804 Eagle. Do you think I ought to write my London findings up some way?

The publicity in St.Louis, in due course, will come out.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb